

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough search and examination of the present patent application.

In response to the Restriction Requirement under 35 U.S.C. §§121 and 372, applicants elect the invention of Group I: Claims 35-55, drawn to a storage facility, classified in Class 414, subclass 262. Applicants reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter covered in the non-elected claims.

In the event that no generic claim is finally held to be allowable, in response to the Examiner's requirement for an election of species, applicant elects Species I, shown in Figures 2 and 3. Upon allowance of a general claim, as provided under 36 C.F.R. §1.141, applicants respectfully request consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form, or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim.

Claims 54-69 have been canceled and new claim 70 has been added to more particularly claim applicants' invention. Further, claims 35, 41-45, 48, 49 and 51 have been amended to more particularly define applicants' invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to claims 35, 41-45, 48, 49 and 51 make explicit that which applicants believed was implicit and, therefore, are not made for statutory purposes related to patentability. Further, in accordance with M.P.E.P §809.02(a), Applicants respectfully submit that new claim 70 is readable upon the elected Species I.

The disclosure has been amended to correct various informalities and to overcome the Examiner's objection described in paragraph 8 of the Office Action. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The drawings stand objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a). Accordingly, the drawings have been amended to correct typographical errors and to correct inadvertent line breaks. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The specification is objected to under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to provide an adequate description of the claimed invention. Accordingly, the specification has been carefully reviewed and inadvertent typographical and grammatical errors have been corrected. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 35-53 and 56-69 stand rejected under 35. U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for the reasons set forth in the objection to the specification. As noted above, the specification has been amended to overcome the Examiner's objection and, therefore, applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 35-53 under 35. U.S.C. §112, first paragraph be reconsidered.

Claims 35-53 and 56-68 stand rejected under 35. U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. Claims 56-68 have been canceled, and Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection with respect to claims 35-53.

Claim 35 has been amended to more particularly define applicants' invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to claim 35 overcomes the Examiner's rejection as discussed in paragraph 14 (sections a-c). Reconsideration is respectfully requested. Further, claims 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 48, 49 and 51 have been amended to address the Examiner's specific questions, shown in paragraph 14 (sections d-l). Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 54, 55 and 69 stand rejected under 35. U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Schween (U.S. Patent Number 5,669,753). Applicants herein cancel claims 54, 55 and 69, thereby rendering the rejection moot.

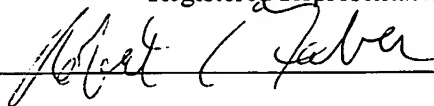
Applicants respectfully submit that the above-identified amendments to the specification, drawings and claims places this application in condition for treatment on the merits.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance of this application are respectfully solicited.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on March 30, 2004:

Robert C. Faber

Name of applicant, assignee or  
Registered Representative



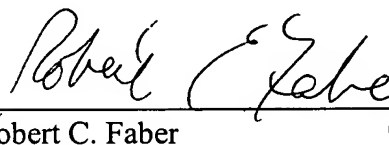
Signature

March 30, 2004

Date of Signature

RCF:JJF:ck

Respectfully submitted,



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